



A conservation design yields the same number of homes, but protects all natural features with buffers of 150 to 300 feet. It includes a network of trails, and 62% of the site remains in open space. With the buffers, the pollutant load is virtually zero. It can be accomplished under current Sussex County ordinances.

design and still meet all county ordinances and codes, and produce the same number of units with potentially more recreational amenities.

The 'Super Green' Initiative

The Delaware Environmentally Sustainable Development Initiative, known as "Super Green" is a voluntary program for the property development community established at the request of former DNREC Secretary John A. Hughes. Stringent criteria

have been established by state, local, and national stakeholders to provide property owners, design engineers, and builders with a mechanism for recognition for building environmentally friendly and sustainable projects that go well above and beyond state and local regulatory requirements. The Super Green criteria are intended to support and coordinate with other state, county and national environmental initiatives, plans and policies.

Case Study Nutrient Reduction Results <i>Inland Bays High Reduction Area</i>	Nitrogen (85%)	Phosphorus (65%)
Post-development load reduction target	1.44 lbs/day	0.12 lbs./day
Conventional design with wastewater/stormwater best-management practices (BMPs)	6.03 lbs./day	0.50 lbs./day
Conservation design with BMPs and buffers	0.00 lbs./day	0.09 lbs/day

Source: Watershed Assessment Section, DNREC

References

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. March 2008. Guidelines for Counties and Municipalities to Protect Ecological Features of State Resources. www.dnrec.delaware.gov.

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and Element Design Group. October 2008. The Super Green Criteria: An Environmentally Sustainable Development Initiative (unpublished draft). www.dnrec.delaware.gov/LANDUSE

Delaware Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Control. Watershed Assessment Section. 2005. Nutrient Load Assessment Protocol (Unpublished).